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FRANK A. MUNSEY.

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1907.

Free Passes Again.

It is doubtful if there is good ground for the charge that a provision in the army appropriation bill, as reported to the Senate, would open the way to giving free or reduced-rate transportation to public officials in general. But the fact remains that no chances ought to be taken. The safe way to assure that the business of granting free transportation will not be resumed is to leave the law stand just as it is now.

Free passes were about the most demoralizing thing that the country knew for many years. Men who couldn't be bought with any amount of money would be complimented, flattered, persuaded, by the pass. The best single provision in the rate bill was the ironclad provision against free passes. It should remain there, without any changes. The country believes in it.

The Income Tax.

That the United States should be so far behind other countries in arriving at the realization that the income tax is the most reasonable, just, adjustable, and logical form of taxation, is one of the anomalies that at times seem to justify inquiry whether, after all, this country's is the best government.

Britain, Australasia, Japan, some of the South American countries, all have the income tax as a basic feature of their economic schemes. Most of the European countries have adopted it. France has just taken the step which will fix it as one of the lode stars of that nation's fiscal policy in future.

The United States is moving toward it, however. President Roosevelt turned opinion in that direction by his discussion of the inheritance tax, and there is small doubt that means will be found before long to establish the system in this country.

Farm Distilleries.

Much inquiry has been made of late as to the methods by which the friends of denatured alcohol propose to make it possible for the farm distillery to be operated. The plan is simple, and is copied from Germany, where it works fairly well.

As the alcohol measure passed last winter, it surrounded the process of making and denaturing alcohol with so many expensive restrictions as to make it practically impossible for any but very large establishments to produce it. The prospect of a monopoly in the hands of the few big distillers soon became real, and it was seen that there must be amendment if the real possibilities of the industry were to be developed.

In Germany the greater part of denatured alcohol is produced in small or farm distilleries. Each of these small stills is so constructed that the alcohol flows, when it is produced, into a cask of the necessary size, from which it can be drawn off only by breaking a seal and using a key which none but a government inspector possesses. At intervals the inspector comes, inspects the seal, opens the cask, and views the process of mixing with the alcohol the denaturing agent. Thus the expense of keeping an agent at each still all the time is avoided, and the government's supervision is made inexpensive, yet effective.

It is proposed to amend the act which Congress passed last session, and which the House has already expanded widely, to adopt this system. The amendment is being vigorously pressed, and its friends hope it may become law this session.

The Tendencies.

Two decidedly interesting political incidents have recently occurred in Washington, into which may be construed a significance not likely to be overestimated.

One of these was the appearance, in the course of routine business of the upper chamber, of a remarkable joint resolution of the Legislature of South Dakota, transmitted through Senator Robert J. Gamble. This resolution, duly signed, sealed in gold, ribboned in red and blue, done on parchment, and engrossed in the highest Spencerian art, was, in substance, a declaration of the Legislature of that State that it was for Theodore Roosevelt and his policies; and its Senators were in-

structed, and its Congressmen requested, to place themselves in line with the policies and purposes of the President. The instruction—for it was hardly less than such—was in such broad terms and couched in such emphasis of phrase that it caused a smile to pass round the upper chamber. Yet it had a right serious meaning to the men who smiled.

On the same day when this resolution was presented in the Senate, former Governor Durbin, of Indiana, came to town and expressed the serious opinion that Roosevelt will be renominated. He based it on observations in widely separated sections of the country, which he has visited lately. The people, he said, were for the President, and would decide for him, whether he was a candidate or not.

The fact is becoming apparent that nobody else in the party seems able to wear the mantle of Roosevelt. Secretary Taft's friends are bent on giving him a show in the game, and those of Vice President Fairbanks appear to be very earnestly at work. But from the country comes clearer and clearer the call for another term of Roosevelt, in the face of the President's declaration to permit his name to be used.

The fact is that the Brownsville speeches, the denunciations of the President's efforts to subvert the Constitution, the exposures of his policy of subjugating the States, and all the rest of the attacks, haven't had the least effect on the people at large. They understand perfectly that the President is unpopular in certain quarters; and the more that unpopularity is made plain, the more they want him nominated again. That's the long and short of it, and wise politicians might as well take the hint.

Another Step.

Those Representatives who had part in the favorable report given last Friday to the bill for the prevention of tuberculosis in the District deserve the gratitude of the community. They have taken the latest and one of the most important steps in the fight against the White Plague in the Capital.

A committee of citizens, which included many leading physicians, has been doing noble service along this line for four or five years. It has accomplished much. But a considerable part of its work has been nullified by the carelessness or ignorance of patients over whom its members have had no control.

Realizing this, they asked three years ago that cases of pulmonary tuberculosis should be registered as are cases of typhoid, diphtheria, and similar diseases. The chief effect of such legislation as illustrated in fifty other cities would be to limit the danger of spreading the contagion without imposing any irksome espionage on the afflicted. A secondary effect would be to put the local Health Department in such a position that it could aid effectively in the fight.

Such registration, for such purposes, is provided in the bill just reported. The only objection urged against it has come from local physicians. They seem to have felt that the record might be made public, and, in some cases, the free examination for germs might injure their practice.

Experience elsewhere shows both fears to be groundless. The practitioners of no city where compulsory registration is now in force have found the law hard. On the contrary, only two or three instances of discourtesy or publicity have been reported out of thousands of cases registered; and the business of bacteriologist has grown rather than diminished. Significantly, the establishment of the great private laboratories of New York, Chicago, and Boston has invariably followed the opening of free institutions of the same general nature.

Without more substantial objection to the measure than this Congress should not hesitate to pass it. In the light of experience in other cities more substantial objection will be hard to find.

The First American Salon.

No wonder F. Hopkinson Smith—distinguished architect, lecturer, author, and water colorist—grows enthusiastic over the "First American Salon." The pictures now on view at the Corcoran comprise very possibly the most notable exhibit of oils by American painters in the history of the nation.

The collection has the primal advantage of being splendidly displayed. Against a perfect background, with excellent light, natural and artificial, amid the most appropriate architectural surroundings, the paintings appear to every advantage.

They are worth it all. As Mr. Smith said in The Times of Friday, there are landscapes which rival the best work of the Barbizons—Corot, Daubigny, Rousseau, Diaz, Troyon, and Millet. Not a few of the portraits are of equally high grade. No better opportunity has ever offered within reach of Washington to view and enjoy the work of John Sargent;

and his associates—Benson, whose brilliant, diaphanous, sparkling portrait of a young girl earned him the second prize, no more than Chase, Wiles, Cecilia Beaux, and Alexander—share in the distinction.

At first thought it seems unfortunate that pictures not owned by the artist were excluded from the competitions. Yet the judgment of the committee was the better. For now the effect is to attract the latest work of the exhibitors and impel them to do new things from year to year. It is regrettable, however, that the collection is limited to oils—for Americans have made no less progress in water color and sculpture and need encouragement in those fields quite as much.

One phase of the enterprise which must please Washingtonians is the extremely creditable showing of their own painters. Mr. Messer, Mr. Moser, Mr. Weil, Mr. MacDonald, and a dozen others have displayed works well above the average of the exhibition, which is a revelation of high capability, indeed. The characteristic examples of the four who have been singled out ought to give the Capital a new sense of artistic achievement.

The suggestion is now made that the salon be nationalized; that Congress award a medal, with or without a cash accompaniment, to the picture selected as the best. It is most desirable that should be done. There is no fair objection to be urged against it. Surely a medal, or ten medals, would not be too much encouragement for the artists of America while France maintains the Luxembourg and patronizes the Salon of Paris; while England maintains the Royal Academy, and gives support to hundreds of others; while Germany takes an active, patron-like, almost too leading a part in the development of her art. The nation has assuredly outgrown the day when it was afraid of advanced education and ashamed of art; and this national exhibition offers a fine opportunity for Congress to show it.

PIPE DREAMS.

"I dreamed of pipe lines when a boy," John D. Rockefeller.

When Johnny D. had hardly ceased to cry, "Oh, rock a feller!" His business head had so increased that he was made bank teller.

And, not to waste the implements of Nature hides a slumberer. He breathed in dollars, snored in cents and dreamed one golden number.

But more than this, he spent the hour when others fed their faces. In plans for butyrateous power in unctuous petrol pipelines.

And, lighting up his penny clay (Long years ago discarded) He lost the sense of reality. Nor friend nor foe regarded.

Ecstatic, he would fabricate a pipe dream, "omphimpressive." In which appeared, a Standard State, Where oil was most expensive.

Intoxicated by the weed, His wits began a boiling. And we whom he has stung may read The genesis of oiling.

—Vincent Van Marter Beede, in New York Sun.

CARIBOU TO SUPPLANT DOGS AS POLAR DRAFT ANIMALS

Some weeks ago it was announced in the columns of Forest and Stream that an interesting experiment relative to the introduction of reindeer into Newfoundland for draft purposes was about to be tried. In his trip around the Newfoundland and Labrador coast in 1905 Sir William McGregor, governor of the island, saw the need of some substitute for the half savage mongrel dogs now in use. He gathered and caused to be gathered large quantities of reindeer mosses that grow in immense quantities on these shores in order to have their quality tested for reindeer.

It was suggested at the time that an experiment be tried with caribou. It was agreed that they were easier and cheaper to obtain and they had the advantage of being already acclimated to the climate of the island. Several hunters caught young caribou this spring and are taming them. If they succeed in domesticating them the problem will be solved.

While it is extremely hard to feed dogs, it is comparatively easy to feed reindeer. Reindeer eat anything that grows as a food for the indigenous moose as a food for the reindeer. They thrive on them in winter and in summer scrape away the snow to secure them.

The governor did not spend much time in theorizing about the quality of the reindeer mosses and he sent them to the royal botanical gardens at Kew, near London, to be tested. He himself is a specialist on matters botanical, but not satisfied with his own opinions, he appealed to the botanists at Kew, these being the final authorities in the scientific world on matters botanical. The governor's theories were confirmed in every particular, and by last English mail he received the specimens back duly classified and labeled.—Forest and Stream.

WOMAN CIVIL ENGINEER GETS GOOD APPOINTMENT

The first woman civil engineer in the United States is Miss Nora Stanton Blatch, daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. She was recently appointed a member of the staff of civil engineers having in charge the work on the new St. Lawrence Canal system. She has been added to the New York water supply. Miss Blatch received her training at Cornell, where she was the only woman in the class.

At first it is said the men students privately chafed long at her tall, dark, and almost impassable barriers in the attempt to tire her out, but she donned short skirts and bloomers and managed to keep up with the best of them, thus winning their respect and admiration.

Before her election to this staff Miss Blatch was offered a most flattering position in China, the offer coming through a high-class Chinese official sent here to organize a corps of engineers for work in the Flowery Kingdom. She was recently elected a member of the American Society of Engineers, and was the first woman to be so honored.

SMALLEST OF BRIDAL COUPLES.

Two dwarfs, named Carlisle Perry Harrey and Emily Maud Phillips, traveling with a cinematograph company, were married at Pontypridd, Wales. They are supposed to be the smallest people in the world, for their combined height is only 7 feet 4 inches.

BELIEVE HEYBURN FEARNS HARRIMAN

Resolution for Northern Pacific Inquiry Has Mystified Senators.

The mystery attaching to the resolution introduced, on February 5, in the upper chamber, by Senator Heyburn of Idaho, has been solved in various ways by Senatorial gossip, and one of these is found in the allegation that it represents an effort of the Harriman interests to fight the Hill railroad combination in the northwest.

Explanation is made that feeling between the two big transcontinental systems has never been more bitter than it is today. The Harriman-Rockefeller combination, it is known, feels that the Hill-Morgan people have encouraged the Government's attacks on the Union Pacific interests, and is very resentful. Seeking a weak place in the armor of the Hill interests, it is suggested, this Union Pacific party might naturally have turned back to the Morgan reorganization of the Northern Pacific.

The Heyburn resolution directs appointment of a committee of five Senators to investigate the reorganization of the Northern Pacific road, completed in 1896 under the domination of J. P. Morgan. It charges that the former stockholders were defrauded in the reorganization; alleges that there was a land grant and operated, prior to 1896, under a Federal charter; sets forth that the United States has lost the immediate legislative power over the road which it contemplated and expected when it gave from the public land to aid in building the road; and therefore orders that the title by which the company holds the land grants, charters, property, etc., of the former company, be investigated, and the facts reported.

Sensor Heyburn has merely explained that his resolution relates to the claim of the minority shareholders that they were frozen out by Morgan. Back of all this, however, it is now alleged, is the big fight between the Hill and Harriman groups, and the control of the Northern Pacific is thought to be once more somewhat involved between these giant interests.

TOO GREAT SUM NAMED FOR PARK

In a letter disapproving Senate bill 7564 of the Fifty-ninth Congress, which provides for a public park at Maryland avenue, Fifteenth and H streets northwest, which will be sent to Congress tomorrow, the Commissioners say:

"The Commissioners believe that this property is suitable for a large park and that such a park would be desirable, as there are now none existing in that locality. They do not believe, however, that the bill should name any specific piece of property for the park, but that if Congress desires to locate a park in this vicinity it should appropriate a sum of money for the purpose without designating the locality, leaving the selection to the Commissioners."

The bill appropriates \$150,000 for the purchase of the land, which the Commissioners estimate is worth \$4,000 per acre, or \$100,000.

CIVIL SERVICE ORDEALS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH

Civil service examinations are scheduled for March 6 and 13.

For unmarried men as tailors in the Indian service at Fort Shaw, Montana, salary \$60 per annum; age limit is twenty and over, an examination will take place March 6.

On the same day a wet plate photographer for the Geological Survey will be selected. Salary \$1,000 a year. Also for wireman in the office of the Secretary of Agriculture, at \$3 or \$3.50 a day.

Four examinations will be given on March 13. A general mechanic for the Post Peak agency, salary \$900 a year; a janitor, salary \$500 a month; an ink chemist and an ink maker, salary \$1,500 is wanted at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Marine firemen for the four Quarter-master's Department steamers are being sought by the commission.

NAVAL BATTALION MEMBERS HOLD INITIAL DANCE

More than 100 members of the third division of the Naval Battalion of the District of Columbia National Guard were present at the initial dance of the division, which was held at Mrs. Dyer's, 317 E street northwest, last night. Dancing began at 9 o'clock and continued until after midnight, when refreshments were served.

H. L. Simcoe, George Landrick, and D. L. Hendricks composed the committee which had charge of the arrangements for the dance.

WOLF HUNTER'S PROFITS.

L. D. Tainter brought to Ladysmith, Wis., six wolves and five wildcats for which he received \$250 each for the wolves and \$5 each for the wildcats. Mr. Tainter is the only man in this county who has succeeded in trapping many of the larger or timber wolves. His methods he keeps to himself. The increase in the bounty made by the last Legislature has stimulated the destruction of wolves and wildcats. It is believed that the killing off of the wolves will save many deer.

Marion Smith, a farmer living near Sisson, D., is the champion wolf hunter of that part of the State. In addition to the sport he also finds wolf killing quite profitable. This is illustrated by a recent experience of his. While out with his rifle in the vicinity of Cottonwood lake he was fortunate to run upon five wolves, one female and four males, which he succeeded in shooting and killing. The bounty on female wolves is \$25 and on males \$10, therefore Mr. Smith cleared \$55 from his day's hunt. Aside from this, the profits of street wolves are worth \$5 or \$6.—St. Paul Dispatch.

CLAIMS LAWS ARE LAX IN OUR MURDER CASES

Noted English Scientist, Who Has Testified Here, Criticises Methods Adopted to Secure Delay in Trials in America.

By DR. FORBES WINSLOW.

We in England are accustomed to talk of the law's delay, but from what I have observed of legal matters in the United States, especially in regard to criminal proceedings, I think that English people may congratulate themselves that the law is as expeditious as it is.

The delays, indeed, in criminal proceedings in America would be almost inconceivable to those who are unacquainted with them. This is especially the case in regard to murder trials, which often take months to decide, and are occasionally dragged out over long years.

The reasons for the extraordinary delays are manifold, one of them being the exceeding bitter spirit which counsel throw into cases. They belabor every point until it has been practically thrashed out of existence.

It is possible to get an adjournment on almost any pretext, and month after month is often frittered away in the efforts of counsel to postpone the crucial moment.

Refers to the Thaw Case.

This sort of thing will probably apply to the trial of Mr. Thaw, and I personally, should be exceedingly sorry to be in the place of anyone, however innocent, awaiting trial in such circumstances as these. The delays are such in the end they must, of necessity, weaken the mind and body of the man in custody.

All persons waiting their trial for murder in New York are confined in the public prison which is known as the Tombs. Here there is a special gallery provided for the accommodation of people charged with the capital offense, and this gallery is known as the "Murder Row." When I was in New York I spent large portion of my time in studying the prisoners who were therein confined.

The case upon which I was engaged as expert was rather similar to that of Mr. Thaw. It was that of a man who had undoubtedly committed murder when of unsound mind, inasmuch as he had perpetrated the crime under the impression that he was bidden to do so by his sister's ghost. A man had been wronged and practically killed this sister, and that man was shot by the prisoner in whose case I was interested.

In other words, it was called "an emotional crime," meaning really that it was a case that appealed to the emotions of the public.

Testified as Expert.

I was called in as expert witness, and it was my sincere conviction that the murder had been committed while the man was insane, but that he was perfectly sound in mind at the time of the crime.

Curious Dancing Stars

That Play Hide and Seek With the Astronomers

Celestial Orbs That Tip-Toe Through the Heavens With Invisible Partners, Alternately Approaching and Receding From the Earth.

By GARRETT P. SERVISS.

Among the most picturesque results of recent astronomical studies is the revelation of a surprising number of stars which alternately approach and then recede from the earth, or else either advance or retreat with astonishing changes of velocity, at one time rushing earthward at the rate of perhaps twenty miles per second, and then arresting themselves and reducing their speed to only three or four miles per second.

These erratic dancing stars are found in all parts of the sky. Some of them, in spite of their changes or variations of velocity, are gradually drawing nearer to us, while others are moving away.

Among them is included one of the greatest stars in the heavens, the fiery red Antares, in the constellation Scorpio. This huge orb, which is known to be many times brighter than our sun, has been found at times to be approaching the earth with a speed of about a mile and a quarter per second, and at other times to be retreating at as much as three and a half miles per second. Upon the whole, Antares appears to be receding into the depths of space.

The swifter motions mentioned above have been detected among smaller stars, some of which probably possess less intrinsic brightness and a smaller mass than our sun.

All the Stars in Motion.

The fact that all the stars are in motion, some going one way and some another, has long been known, but the peculiar motions here referred to have a different origin. The only explanation suggested for them is that the stars thus affected by what seems a kind of dance craze are in all cases double—that is to say, there are really two stars concerned, where only one is visible, and it is the revolution of the visible star around the center of gravity common to it and its unseen companion which causes the alternate advance and retreat, or the successive quickening and retardation of the motion.

Suppose that the star under observation is one of those which, upon the whole, is approaching the earth, but which at certain times appears to be receding. It must be supposed to have a very massive invisible companion, heavier than itself. The two revolve around one another in a plane nearly coincident with the line of sight from the earth. The consequence is that they are, alternately, on opposite sides of that line. When one is retreating from us in its orbit the other is simultaneously approaching.

But we see the light of one only, the other being invisible. Consequently, at

trial. The lawyers for the prosecution, on the other hand, sought to prove that the man was perfectly sane when he committed the deed.

After many adjournments the accused was brought into court and the preliminary proceedings began with the selection of a jury.

This proceeding often lasts for more than a week, and in the case in which I was retained as expert for the defense, took six days to empanel a jury, out of about 250 men who were summoned to serve.

On the sixth day the trial began, and what struck me most as an expert was the laxity of the whole proceedings. The judge came to the court unrobed, and, taking his seat on a high chair, was not content to remain there. During the whole of the hearing he continually walked up and down as though bent on taking a certain amount of exercise.

Without pausing in his stride he would occasionally make a remark or ask a question.

In such cases, too, the legal gentlemen engaged are either counsel or solicitors. There is no distinction in America between these two, and they are also unrobed. It is, however, my duty to record that, whether engaged for the prosecution or defense, these gentlemen do everything they can for their clients to the utmost of their ability.

His Evidence Accepted.

There had been specially selected to combat my evidence a pompous gentleman who was described as "the leading medical expert in New York." He was accommodated with a seat on the "Murder Row," but he showed his real cards when he was asked by the counsel for the defense the reason for his forming an opinion that the accused was a person of sound mind.

His reply was that he judged by his pulse, but upon being pressed as to whether he had felt the accused man's pulse he replied that he shook hands with him after his examination and as he did so he passed his thumb over his pulse and felt it.

This was, of course, nonsense, and in the end the jury accepted my point of view, after a trial which lasted over a month.

I may mention the fact that on the last day I was asked a hypothetical question 10,000 words long.

Their first idea, too, was to prove that the accused was of sound mind at the time of the murder but of unsound mind at the time of the trial. They did this with the hope that in the distant future when he should again be certified of sound mind they might bring him up for trial and convict him. In this effort, however, they were unsuccessful.

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MRS. ASTOR, JR., SQUATS MONEY ON COUNTRY HOUSE

"Restoring" Cliveden for Expected Visit From King Edward.

Mosaic Floors Ripped Up Giving Place to Marble Slabs.

Young Woman Given Free Hand With Husband's Purse.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Mrs. Waldorf Astor, Jr., is spending her husband's vast fortune with a free hand. Cliveden, the palatial country seat of the young Astors, is at present in the hands of an army of workmen.

The King has signified his intention of visiting the junior Astors in the course of the next few months, and so the new owners of Cliveden have determined to overhaul the place completely. Not that Mr. Astor, sr., before he presented Cliveden to his son as a marriage gift, ever allowed it to get into disrepair. Indeed, since Mr. Astor bought it from the Duke of Westminster, seventeen or eighteen years ago, he has spent thousands of pounds on the estate, and, moreover, kept it up in a style never before known.